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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/512,884	02/25/2000	Toshiyuki Kashiwagi	000207	7754

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ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP
1725 K STREET, NW
SUITE 1000
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

EXAMINER

HUYNH, KIM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2189

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2003

13

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/512,884

Applicant(s)

KASHIWAGI ET AL.

Examiner

Kim T. Huynh

Art Unit

2189

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 February 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claim 1, it is unclear the preamble set forth an electronic apparatus or an input device being claimed since there is nothing precedent the word comprising.

As per claim 3, it is unclear if "wherein a supporting member" is the same as "a retaining member", as recited in claim 1, or not. Does applicant mean "wherein the retaining member comprises a supporting member being mounted (which is mounted) so as ... "? ; Same problem occurs as in claim 5 as well.

As per claim 7, the recitation "an electronic apparatus having a main unit rotatably attached to the main unit", found in lines 1-2, renders the claim indefinite because "a main unit" cannot rotatably attached to itself. Furthermore, "the display unit, in line 4, lacks antecedent basis in the claim. It is suggested that applicant changes the former mentioned recitation to -- an electronic apparatus having a display unit rotatably attached to a main unit—in order to overcome this rejection.

As per claim 8, the recitation "when the supporting member is lowered", found in line 6, renders the claim indefinite because it is not clear what the supporting member being lowered with respect to.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5, 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Clancy et al. (US Patent 5,168,427)

As per claim 1, Clancy discloses an electronic apparatus detachably connected to an input device 10, main unit 14, a display unit 32 rotatably attached to the main unit, and a retaining mechanism (wherein pin 46, latch assembly 54) retaining at least one portion of the input device 10 into a space formed between the display unit 32 and the main unit 14.

As per claim 2, Clancy discloses the retaining mechanism comprises at least one supporting member 80.

As per claims 3 and 5(as best understood) Clancy discloses the retaining member comprises a support member/an engaging member 80 which can be storable in the main unit when the input device is not being stored.

As per claim 4, Clancy discloses the retaining mechanism comprises an engaging member 46 engaging the main unit 14 and the input device 10.

As per claim 7, Clancy discloses an input device 10 detachably connected to an electronic apparatus having a display unit 32 rotatably attached to a main unit 14, the input device comprising at least one engaging member 46 engaging the main unit so that at least one portion of the input device is retained into a space formed between the display unit and the main unit.

As per claim 8, Clancy discloses an electronic apparatus comprising a main unit 14, a keyboard 10 detachable from the main unit, a display unit 32 rotatably attached to the main unit, and a supporting member 80 rotatably mounted to the main unit to hold the keyboard is mounted on the supporting member, wherein when the keyboard is mounted on the supporting member and the display unit is rotated down, the keyboard 10 is disposed in a space between the display unit 32 and the main unit 14.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clancy et al. (US Patent 5,168,427) in view of Kimura et al. (US Patent 6,108,716)

Clancy discloses all the limitations as above except an electronic apparatus further comprising detector detecting each of a storage and a removal operation of the input device and controlling predetermined operation of the electronic

apparatus according to signal of detector. However, Kimura discloses detect sensor which detects keyboard is mounted on the system, terminals which send or receive signals to or from terminal for keyboard of system. (col.10, lines 24-42)

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Kimura's teaching into Clancy's method so as to provide a data processing unit which stabilizes the system, with the keyboard detached from the system regardless of the position of the display unit with respect to the system. (col.1, lines 45-50)

Conclusion

4. *A shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire THREE months from the mailing date of this communication. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) months from the mailing date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) months from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C 133).*

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

5. *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (703)305-5384 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM- 6:30PM.*

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-5631.

Kim Huynh

Sept. 2, 2003



MARK H. RINEHART
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100